

ABSTRACT

A binding member removing apparatus 300 comprises a tray
30 for mounting thereon a bundle D of document sheets bound
with a staple S, a removing unit 410 for removing the staple
5 S from the bundle D of document sheets mounted on the tray
30, and a moving unit for moving the staple S removed by the
removing unit 410. The removing unit 410 is provided with
an inserting member 411 to be passed between the bundle of
document sheets and the binding member binding the bundle
10 of document sheets and the inserting member 411 is provided
with a plurality of elongated parts 412 formed in the shape
of a comb having teeth extended in the direction of insertion
thereof. The inserting member optionally comprises a first
inserting member 811 to be passed between the obverse face
15 of the bundle D of document sheets and the staple S and a
second inserting member 812 to be passed between the reverse
face of the bundle D of document sheets and the staple S as
a binding member. The binding member removing device is
further provided with discerning means for forming a judgment
20 whether or not the staple S has been removed from the bundle
D of document sheets after the operation for removal of the
staple S by the removing unit 410.